**SPOKEN WORD: BRAINSTORMING WORKSHEET**

If you have an idea or topic you already know you want to write your Spoken Word about, fill in the brainstorming sheet accordingly, as you pull ideas that you want to write about or points you want to make within your Spoken Word. Brainstorm your ideas in the spaces provided below.

For those of you who do not have an idea yet, brainstorm and tell your own story of being misjudged based on a stereotype, to debunk that stereotype and others. Brainstorm your ideas in the spaces provided below.

**1. Your Incident/Topic:**

1. Think of a time when someone misjudged you—either because of your physical appearance, your race or ethnicity, or some other superficial aspect such as where you live. Write what happened, in detail, here:
2. What stereotype did that person rely on? What is the reality they ignored?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| STEREOTYPE | THE REAL YOU |
|  |  |

**2. Related Stereotypes:** What are some other stereotypes that you can connect to your incident?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| STEREOTYPES | REAL-LIFE PEOPLE WHO DEFY THOSE STEREOTYPES |
| 1.  2.  3.  4. | 1.  2.  3.  4. |

**3. Images and References:** Poems are unique in that they allow you to say a lot with just a few words. Each name you mention, each image you conjure in your audience’s minds, tells a story. As a poet, it is your job to choose those images and references which will tell the story you want to convey to your audience.

1. What images might you use in your poem?
2. What names, places, or other references might you mention in your poem?